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# master chibi manga

## Tutorials

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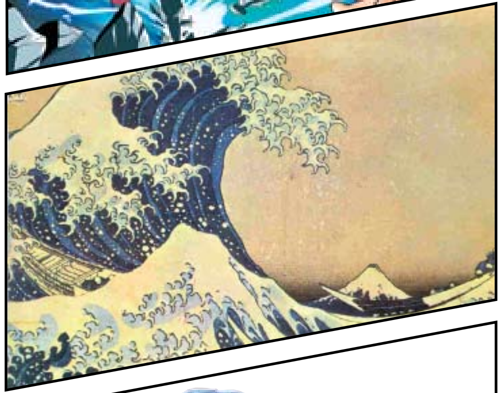
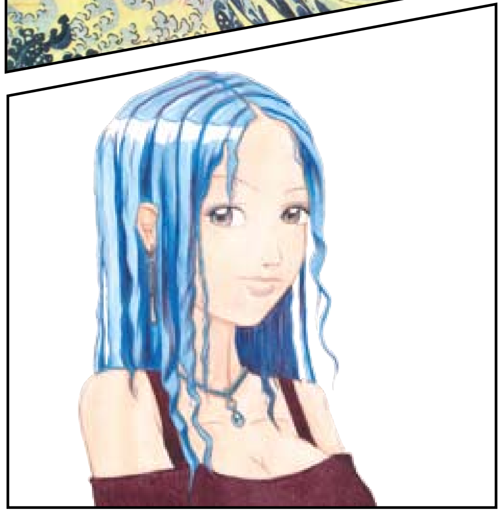
# What is Manga?

Having only been in existence in its present form for a mere fifty years, Manga can on first glance seem like a relatively new art-form. However, the roots of this 'contemporary' art form go back as far as the nineteenth century in the form of Ukiyo-E; a Japanese print made with carved blocks of wood. One of the most famous names of this period was Hokusai. His iconic images, so representative of Japanese art of the time, showed scenes of daily life involving men, women and animals.  It was Hokusai himself who coined the term Manga; a literal translation of which means "irresponsible pictures."  Under the influence of western comic styles, the Ukiyo-e art-form evolved to become what we now regard as modern day Manga. Names such as Hokusai were replaced by names like Tezuka – whose early creations such as Astro boy are often seen as the true beginnings of what we now know as Manga.





Manga's massive appeal today is often credited to the sheer vastness of its content.  Modern Manga will show stories of the fantastical, the futuristic, the romantic, and the everyday.  The wealth and variety of the stories and styles on offer mean that Manga can provide something for everyone.  Whatever your age or interest, there is a Manga style out there for you.

Once you have completed these 3 chibi characters why not try the Derwent Master Manga kit which contains three different Manga characters.

# Chibi Style

Chibi is a Japanese word meaning "short person" or "small child."

Super deformed or SD is a specific style of Japanese caricature where characters are drawn in an exaggerated way, typically small and chubby, with stubby limbs and oversized heads, to make them resemble small children.

Chibi characters are normally between two and four 'heads tall', meaning the size of the head is between half and a quarter of the whole body.  The characters in these tutorials are slightly more than two heads tall, but feel free to draw whatever size you feel most comfortable with.

The most important thing is to make sure the body retains a 'chunky' feel, which matches the rest of the character. Joints on the body such as the shoulder and neck should be kept narrow in order to allow for a large amount of movement, but in general the limbs will be thicker than normal.

Chibi hair is often equally chunky, with the hair clumped together into large spiky strips, or simplified to look much bolder than usual. You can still achieve some fine detail, but the hair ought to be as bold as the rest of the character – it's a great opportunity to have fun! Try out some hairstyles that would look unusual on a regular person, and play around with colours. The most important thing about Chibi characters is that they are all about fun, and they're just as fun to draw!

# Character Types

## Cute Apple Dress

Chibi characters are often presented in a bright and cheerful manner, and this girl is no exception! Her golden locks surround a beaming face and her blue dress is vibrant and colourful with a pattern of apples around it and matching red lace frills and belt. The socks are designed to match the dress perfectly, with an added frill of red lace along the top.  Finally, her shoes, bag and accessories are all carefully picked out to complement her dress.

## Purple Schoolgirl

This character is excited and full of energy. Her funky uniform is based on the traditional Japanese schoolgirl uniform known as 'sailor fuku', but has been jazzed up with some exciting pink and purple colours. She's also wearing 'loose socks', a type of oversized sock worn in Japan that hang loosely and cover some of the shoes.

## Funky Goggles

With Chibi Manga characters you can give them crazy hair colours, the brighter the better. This character has vivid yellow-tinted goggles that he wears on his bright blue hair but you could experiment with any colour combination you like. In this drawing everything is tied together with a strong colour scheme of blue, yellow and green even the details on the t-shirt, watch and shoes are all designed to complement the blue hair.

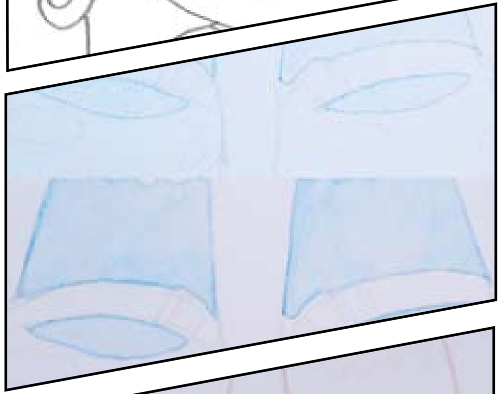
# Tutorial 01 – Cute Apple Dress:

## Step 01:

Start off by drawing the character outlines with the 'Outliner' pencil.  It is possible to erase the lines with a regular pencil eraser, but you have to be careful when drawing.  Try to avoid pressing too hard with this pencil otherwise the lines will be difficult to remove. (For an outline to copy and the completed character, see the end of the tutorials.)

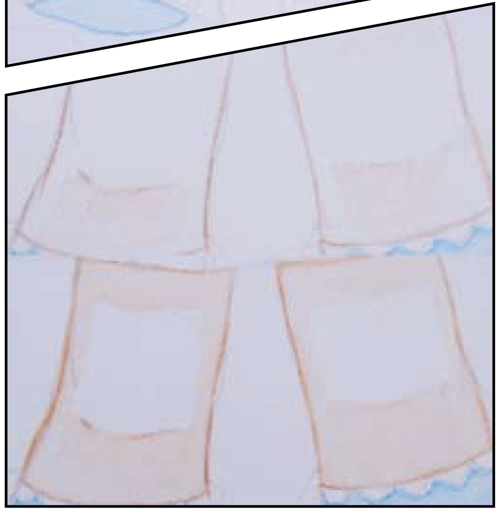
## Step 02:

Now that the pencils lines are in place we can start adding colour, beginning with the socks.  First of all, draw the outline of the area with the Iris Blue pencil. This helps to ensure the area has a crisp and solid outline. Lightly fill in the area with Iris Blue, being sure to apply very little pressure. Now it's time to paint!  Simply apply a light wash to the area you have coloured, with the paintbrush, in order to blend the colours together into an even tone. You don't need too much water, but try to paint each area in full before it dries to avoid uneven colours.



## Step 03:

Now  apply the same technique to the skin. It's useful to allow each area of colour to dry before moving on to the next, so that colours don't spread into one another. Using the Baked Earth pencil draw the outline of the legs and then start to lightly fill in the skin area. However, rather than filling in the whole of the area with pencil, only colour the parts beneath the skirt and below the knee leaving a patch of white around the knee area.  This area of white gives the skin a shiny feel. Now apply a little water to the colour as before, but keep the brush strokes to the outside of the legs, and below the knee area ensuring to keep the patch of white around the knee.





# Tutorial 01 – Cute Apple Dress:

## Step 04:

Now we continue to fill in the other areas of colour using the same technique. The dress is filled in with Iris Blue, first defining the outlines of the areas and then filling in with colour.  The rest of the skin is coloured using Baked Earth, just as you did for the legs.  The skin has highlights on the arms and hands, so the upwards-facing areas of these parts of the body have been left white.

## Step 05:

It's now time to tackle those golden curls! Using the Cadmium Orange pencil, define the outline of the hair. You can draw extra lines for the areas where the hair overlaps itself.  The hair has a large area of highlight at the top that is left blank, in a similar manner to the skin.  Now, apply some extra Cadmium Orange pencil to the area of blonde hair located behind the character's neck, as this will make it darker.   Apply a little water to create a colour wash as before, taking extra care to keep the brush wet to avoid the ink from drying whilst you're filling out the colour area.

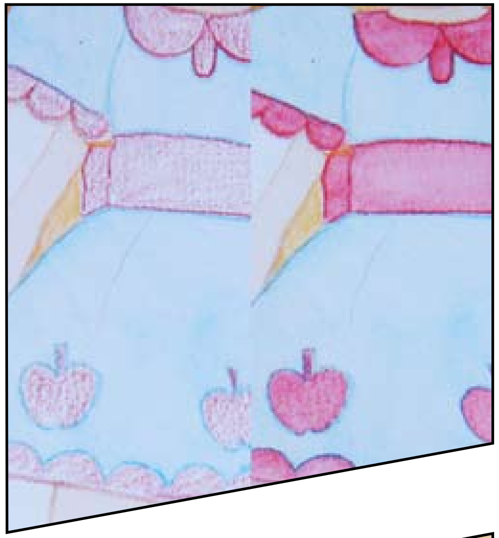
# Tutorial 01 – Cute Apple Dress:

## Step 06:

Using the Cherry pencil, mark out the details on the dress such as the apples, the frills and the belt. Define the outline and then fill in the central areas, before applying a little water to the details you have coloured in. This will intensify the red.

## Step 07:

The red colour is lovely, but we want it brighter and richer! And this is the beauty of the Inktense pencils. If you wait a few moments to allow the red colour to dry, and then apply more Cherry pencil evenly over the top and finally add a little more water, this will greatly intensify the red, really bringing out the richness of tone.  Do the same thing to the handbag, socks and shoes.  She is now complete!



# Tutorial 02 - Purple Schoolgirl:

## Step 01:

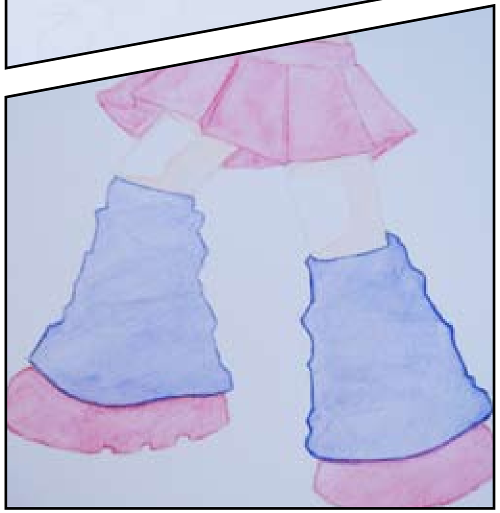
In this tutorial each area, for example the limbs or the clothes, are defined using the colour pencil you will eventually colour that area in with. If you wish you can first draw the outline of the complete character very lightly with the outliner pencil, these lines can be erased later.
(For an outline to copy and the completed character, see the end of the tutorials.)

## Step 02:

Define the areas of skin on the girl using the Baked Earth pencil and then lightly shade them in.  Don't forget to include small areas such as the skin showing around the belly, and the small area under the neck. In a similar manner to the 'Cute Apple Dress' tutorial leave an area of the paper white to create highlight areas on the hands and legs.  Apply a little water to the area you have shaded to fill out and create an even skin tone.

## Step 03:

Apply the same technique with the skirt, socks and shoes. The skirt and shoes are drawn using the Carmine Pink pencil, and the socks are coloured with Violet.  By drawing the lines of the folds and pleats on the skirt it helps to define shape and volume of the clothing, and the clothing looks interesting despite being a single colour. If the lines become too washed out during the painting stage you can re-draw them with the same colour pencil after the paint has dried.



# Tutorial 02 - Purple Schoolgirl:

## Step 04:

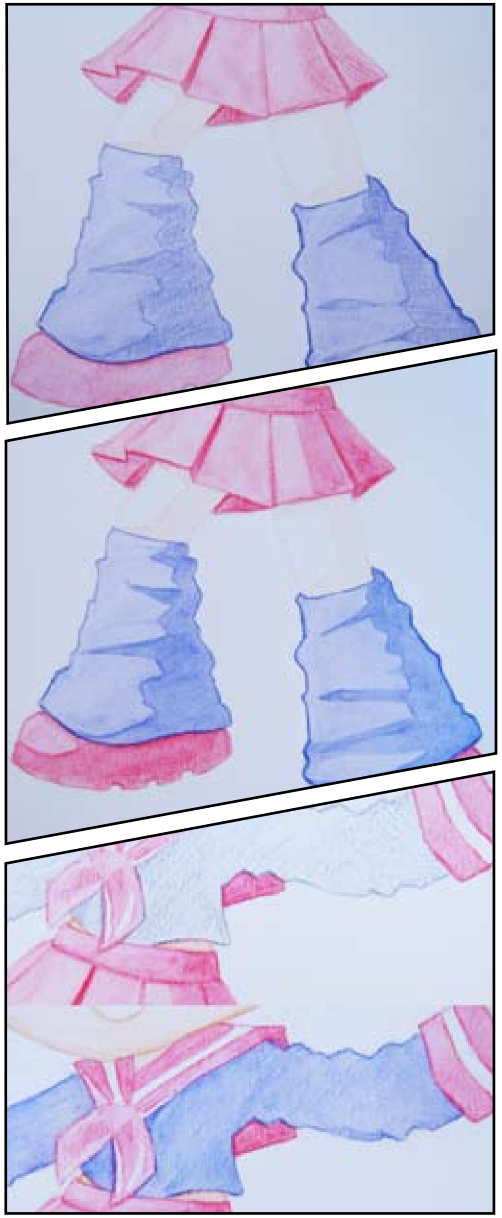
With this step, we're going to add shading to the clothing to give the image a sense of depth and shape. Apply some of the Carmine Pink pencil to the right-hand side of the skirt, and to all the areas facing to the right. Also apply the pencil to the underside of the skirt.  With the socks, apply more Violet pencil to the right hand side of the sock, drawing a zip-zag line to show the folds in the fabric.

## Step 05:

Now it's time to add a little water to create a colour wash! Carefully brush over the new areas of colour, paying attention to keep the shadows to the right side.  Wash your brush in water, and then continue to use the same method on the socks, keeping the brush within the areas marked out but also defining a solid edge to the shaded area.  Wait for the colour on the socks to dry in order to avoid the colours running together, and then apply the same process to the shoes.

## Step 06:

Use the same technique as the skirt and socks to define the colours on the top. Use the Violet pencil for the main area, and the Carmine Pink pencil for the collar and cuffs. This sailor uniform has a prominent white stripe on the cuff and around the collar, so be sure to keep this area free of colour and paint. With neighbouring areas like this you may wish to colour one area at a time in order to avoid the colours running into one another.





Tutorial 02 - Purple Schoolgirl:

## Step 07:

The hair is coloured using Cherry pencil.  Whilst it might have been interesting to colour the hair the same pink as the clothes, by using a slightly different shade this can give the effect of the hair being more 'natural' to the character, and helps distinguish the difference in material between hair and fabric. Mark out the outline, then fill in the area as evenly as possible with the Cherry pencil and then apply a little water to create a wash.  Wait for the area to dry and then repeat the process in order to make the colour much brighter.

## Step 08:

Define the area of the mouth using the Cherry pencil. Draw the outline, and then fill the area in lightly. With the mouth, however, we want a gradient of colour from strong to light from top to bottom of the area. This is achieved by applying more pencil and pressure at the top of the mouth, and lighter pressure towards the bottom. When applying the water be sure to brush downwards from the top to the bottom to get the colours to fade.

## Step 09:

It's fun to get plenty of colour into the eyes of Manga characters. Eyes are always presented as shiny and vibrant, and the more colour there is helps to give the impression of the eyes reflecting the world around them.   In this case a base colour of violet is applied first, and a little water is added to evenly spread the colour.  This is followed by a heavy application of Carmine Pink at the top of the eye, which is then brushed downwards with a little water in order to mix the colours.  Now she's ready!

# Tutorial 03 - Funky Goggles:

## Step 01:

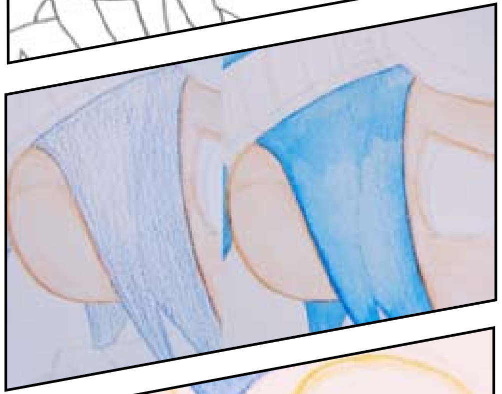
Copy the outline of the complete image lightly using the outliner pencil.
(For an outline to copy and the completed character, see the end of the tutorials.)

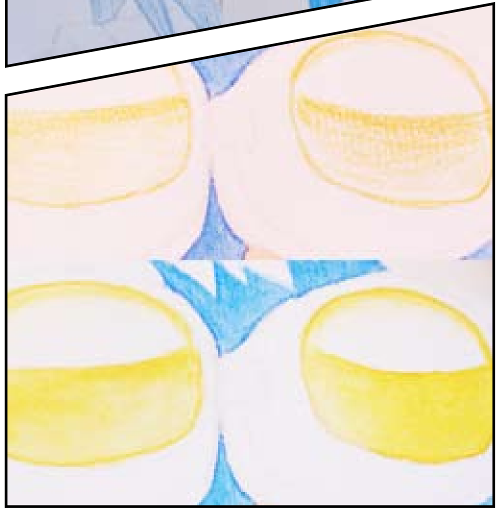
## Step 02:

Let's start this picture by filling in the hair and skin with a base colour as before defining the area, lightly adding colour and then a little water to create an even tone.  The Bright Blue pencil is used for the hair and Baked Earth for the skin.  A white area is left at the top of the hair in order to represent a highlight. Wait for the hair to dry, and then apply another layer of Bright Blue to the hair areas.  This will intensify the colour and bring out the bright and even shade that is required for the hair.

## Step 03:

The goggles have highly reflective yellow lenses, so it's important that they look shiny.  Using the Golden Yellow pencil, mark out the outline and then draw a curved horizontal line to represent the reflection. Make the pencil increasingly dense towards the reflection line, and include a small extra bit of pencil at the top of the lens. Apply a little water to the lenses using the paintbrush and brush downwards to achieve a gradient.







# Tutorial 03 - Funky Goggles:

## Step 04:

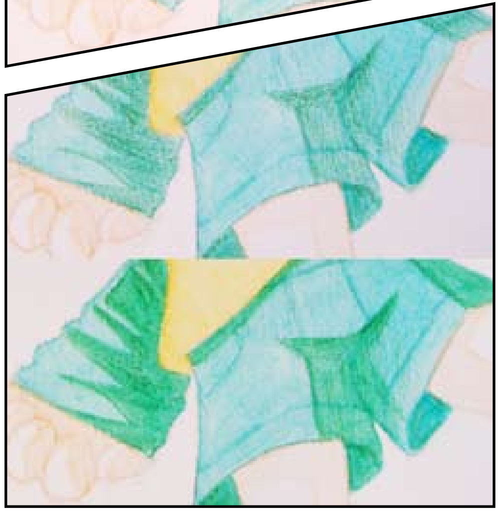
Fill in the rest of the goggles using the Field Green pencil. Leave large sections of white at the top of the goggle areas in order to give the impression of a highlight. This helps to give them a nice plasticky feel, which suits the personality of the character.

## Step 05:

Fill in the t-shirt with the Golden Yellow pencil, and a little water as before.  Allow this to dry, and then repeat the process for the sleeves and shorts using the Teal Green pencil. Allow the image to dry and then fill in the hem of the t-shirt sleeve and the watch with the Lagoon pencil.

## Step 06:

Often you can achieve a more vibrant look to your pictures by using a different shade of colour when adding shading and shadows. Using the Field Green pencil, define shaded areas to the shorts and sleeves. Apply a little water to these areas of shading and the colours will mix together to give a deeper and brighter shadow than you would normally achieve. Finally, some extra detail and lines, like cuffs and pockets are added with the Bright Blue pencil.



# Tutorial 03 - Funky Goggles:

## Step 07:

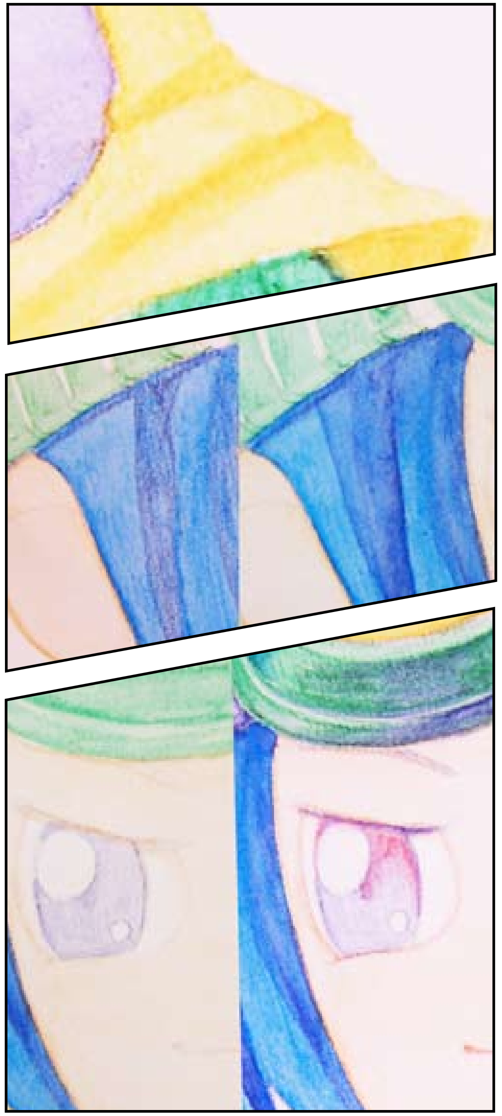
Now we'll try the same process with the t-shirt. Using the Cadmium Orange pencil, mark out some simple folds across the front of the shirt, as well as filling in an area of shade inside the t-shirt sleeve. Apply a little water using the paintbrush to bring out some richly shaded folds. This helps to give the image a sense of motion and shows the pinching of the shirt around the armpits or shoulders.

## Step 08:

Let's add some shading to the hair as well!  The Lagoon pencil is a much deeper shade of blue than the Bright Blue of the hair, so it will add contrast and shape to the picture.   Colour  the areas you want shaded with the Lagoon pencil, and then apply a little water with the paintbrush to reveal a darker and stronger colour.

## Step 09:

Finish off the picture by adding some small details, starting by painting in the eyes. Use the Lagoon pencil for the base of the eyes, followed by Carmine Pink shading at the top of the eye. Apply a little water to the eye and define the pink section in the uppermost portion of the eyeball.  Some Lagoon is applied to the underside of the goggles as well in order to add richness to the shadows there, and some extra outlines are marked with Lagoon.  With eyes and goggles complete, the boy is ready for action!



# About the Artist

## Hayden Scott-Baron

Hayden Scott-Baron is a professional video-games artist, specialising in character design. He is the author of 'Digital Manga Techniques' and 'Manga Clip Art', and frequently participates in industry panels, presentations and workshops on the art form of Manga and works in a variety of different mediums. Hayden is a founding member of UK manga publisher Sweatdrop Studios and has produced a number of manga-style comics.

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## Tutorial 01: Cute Apple Dress

## Tutorial 02: Purple Schoolgirl

**Tutorial 03: Funky Goggles**